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DINA HOUSE

Coming Events

March 22—Bank of East Asia, general meeting, 2.30 p.m.
March 22—H.K.C.C. Dance, 8.30 p.m.
March 22—H.K.C.C. Dance, 8.30 p.m.
March 24—Sino-British Club, 5.30 p.m.
March 27—Helena May Ins., 5.45 p.m.
March 28—Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corp., annual meeting, 11.30 a.m.
March 28—Peak Club meeting, 5.30 p.m.
March 29—Bank of Canton, annual meeting, 3 p.m.
April 12—China Light & Power Co., Ltd., annual meeting, noon.

Robbers
Sentenced

Found guilty, Chan Sang and Mak Tak Hing, were yesterday sentenced by Mr. Justice J. T. Gould to ten years imprisonment with hard labour and 15 strokes of the cane and to eight years imprisonment with hard labour and 12 strokes of the cane respectively.

Both accused were charged with robbery by two or more and also with possession of arms and ammunition.

Mr. A. J. Clifford, who prosecuted, said that the complainant, Chan Wat Sui recently returned from America. At about 6.30 p.m. on Jan. 17, three robbers, two of whom were the accused, armed with a revolver and daggers, entered his house and stole, among other things, five watches, 12 fountain pens, jewellery, CN\$38,000, HK\$260 and some American coins.

Caught in the act of offering a K.C.R. ticket for sale by Chinese detective Chan Tung at 7.15 a.m. on March 20, Ho Ngan-bun, 22, was fined \$100 by Mr. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday.

"Pidgeon
Cargoes"

Revenue Officers carried out on Thursday three separate raids on the ss. "Wah Chung," "Masbate" and "Kwong Sai," resulting in the arrest of 14 Chinese and the seizure of a large quantity of unmanifested cargo hidden in various parts of the three ships.

Before Mr. Sheldon, K.C., at Central yesterday, Chief Revenue Officer Humphreys disclosed that the crews of various ships have been engaged in a practice of bringing "pidgeon cargoes" in and out of Hong Kong.

The I. & E. Department, Mr. Humphreys said, had a lot of trouble to keep a proper check on goods brought in and out of the Colony as a result of these unmanifested cargoes.

Mr. Humphreys said the quantities of the unmanifested cargoes were, in many cases, too big to be considered personal presents brought out from Hong Kong by the defendants.

The seized goods consisted of Chinese medicine, oranges, apples, foodstuff, Kraft cheese and glasses.

Fine ranging from \$25 to \$250 were imposed by the Magistrate on those who appeared to answer the charges, while the bails (ranging from \$25 to \$200) of those who failed to appear, were estreated.

C-IN-C DUE
ON MONDAY

The Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet, returns to Hong Kong in H.M.S. "Belfast" on Monday forenoon from a cruise during which he has visited Kure, Shanghai and Tsingtau. "Belfast" leaves Hong Kong on Wednesday Mar. 20 for Singapore but the Commander-in-Chief remains in Hong Kong.

Also due on Monday is H.M.S. "Manxman" (Captain G. H. Oswald R.N.). "Manxman" is a fast minelayer which served in the Pacific during the War and has relieved the cruiser "Euryalus," which left Hong Kong for U.K. in January. Since her arrival on the station, "Manxman" has been in the Singapore area.

New Racket

Seen by a policeman and two district watchmen walking in Queen's Street with red subscription books in their hands on Thursday afternoon, Leung Pui, 29, Leung Kim, 22, and Chan Mun, 25, were arrested.

From the books, it was revealed that they had been collecting subscriptions from various shops purportedly for the Tin Hau Temple.

Pleading guilty to larceny by trick of \$5 from Chan Chung and \$1 from Chan Pak-yu, the first accused (with two previous convictions for similar offences) was sentenced to three months' hard labour, while second and third were each given one month by Mr. Sheldon, K.C., at Central yesterday.

SINO-BRITISH
CLUB

The next meeting of the Sino-British Club will take place at St. John's Hall on Wednesday, at 5.30 p.m. The speaker will be Mr. Chu Chang-sing, Resident Commissioner for the four Government Banks of China situated in Hong Kong. The subject of the talk will be "The History of the National Emblems of China, starting with the Han Dynasty." The talk will be illustrated by an exhibition of pictures.

SALVATION ARMY
APPEAL

Previously acknowledged \$15,493.20. Dennis East \$25.00. Mrs. H. R. Wells \$10.00. H.K. Gold & Silver Merchants \$300.00. Col. H. Dowbiggin \$25.00. Union Insurance Co., Ltd. \$100.00. S. W. Minshall Esq. \$25.00. The Staff, Butterfield & Swire \$10.00. Dr. Sydneyham \$25.00. Tang Tin Hong Shing \$100.00. Mrs. L. L. Pak Wn \$40.00. Total \$18,305.20.

PADRES MEETING

The meeting which was due to have taken place in the Gloucester Hotel between civilian and service padres and the Chaplain-in-Chief of the R.A.F. Air Vice Marshal the Rev. J. A. Jago, C.B.E., R.I.C., O.D. (who is visiting Hong Kong on his tour of the Far East), is unavoidably postponed until 11 a.m. on Saturday, 23 March.

Mr. Jago will conduct evening service at St. John's Cathedral on Sunday, March 30.

KNIGHT STREET CASE
Husband Testifies For Mrs. Pears
Ownership Of
House

"Money is her god" said Mr. Harry Pears yesterday, when testifying regarding the habits of his wife, Mrs. Bertha Kurtz Pears, who is the defendant in an action relative to the ownership of No. 4 Knight Street, Kowloon. The case is being heard before His Lordship the Chief Justice, Sir Henry Blackall.

The plaintiff, Mrs. Kathleen Choy Wong alias Choy Kathleen, is represented by the Hon. Mr. Leo d'Almada e Castro, instructed by Mr. W.C. Hung of Messrs. Deacons, Mrs. Pears is represented by Mr. C. E. Loseby, instructed by Mr. M. A. da Silva.

Further cross-examined by Mr. Leo d'Almada, Mrs. Pears said that in view of the purchasing power of the Hong Kong Dollar in March 1942, she considered that she had bought her house at a bargain. She was, however, taking a risk and was gambling with her life savings in buying the house, as there was danger from bombing and shelling.

Mrs. Pears said that in 1945 she went to the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Building, where she saw a Naval Officer and made a report concerning several people. She subsequently went to Stanley, because she had made a report concerning some Japanese also. The Naval Officer said he would see to everything. She had heard no more about the matter and had not seen the Naval Officer since. Mrs. Pears said that she also made a report about her boarder Zane, who, she alleged, had threatened to shoot her.

Mrs. Pears maintained that the sale took place on Mar. 1, 1942, notwithstanding the fact that Mrs. Wong claimed that she was not in Hong Kong on that date.

seater Morris car which he had handed over to her. She also sold a bathing machine at 11 Mile Beach, Castle Peak.

Mr. Pears said that after his separation, he borrowed money from his wife from time to time.

After the Japanese surrender, his wife had no money and he helped her.

Receipt For Sale
Miss Lucille Ravago, housekeeper in the employ of Mrs. Pears, said that on Mar. 1, 1942, a Mr. Wong came to look for Mrs. Pears at about 1 p.m. He spoke to her and then left.

At 4 p.m. he returned and told Mrs. Pears that the landlady had agreed to sell the house for \$20,000, not a cent less. He then produced a receipt from his pocket and showed it to Mrs. Pears. Miss Ravago said that she was standing behind Mrs. Pears and saw the receipt.

When Mrs. Pears asked for the house documents, Mr. Wong said that he could not give them as they covered two houses. He promised to fix matters up with the solicitors after the war.

At Mrs. Pears' suggestion, Mr. Wong accompanied her to see the landlady. They returned later and Mrs. Pears paid \$20,000 to Mr. Wong, in exchange for which she received the receipt.

Miss Ravago, asked by Mr. Leo d'Almada if she had ever won a prize at school for recitation, replied in the negative.

Mr. Yeung Tin Cheung said that he heard Mr. Leo ask Mr. Wong for a fresh receipt to replace the one which had been lost.

Hearing was then adjourned till 10 p.m. on Thur. Mar. 27.

POLICE RESERVE
Governor's inspection: — All ranks of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies will attend Murray Parade Ground on Tuesday, 25th March, 1947 at 17.00 hours sharp for an inspection by His Excellency The Governor.

Dress-Uniform.
Sgt. T. O. Tao,
Senior Superintendent of Police, (Reserve).

P.O. CHARGED
Thursday, March 27 was fixed by Mr. H. G. Sheldon K.C. at Central yesterday for the hearing of the case in which P.O. D. G. Mason is charged with armed robbery. Defendant is being held in naval custody.

The tickets printed for Mr. H. G. W. Woodcock's lecture, "The Courts of Old Shanghai," to be given in the Helena May Institute on Thursday, March 27, erroneously give the date as Thursday, March 28. The correct date was given in the Press. For the convenience of the public, tickets for \$2 each are now on sale at Messrs. Kelly & Walsh Ltd., York Building, Chater Road.

Acting on the instructions of the Attorney-General, S/L C. J. Askew applied for leave to withdraw the charge of manslaughter against the accused when Wong Kan, 41, Wong Mun, 33, and Wong Cheung, 31, fishermen of the fishing junk "Ngan Lee," appeared before Mr. Latimer charged with manslaughter and possession of arms and ammunition at Deep Bay, 12th Feb. (Shan on Feb. 12).

More Shops
Fined

Another batch of 13 shops were summoned before and fined by Mr. F. X. d'Almada at Central yesterday for breaches of controlled prices regulations.

The Shan Fung Hong, of 1B Queen Victoria Street, with a previous conviction, was fined \$300 for selling a tin of evaporated milk at 90 cents (instead of \$0.80).

Also with a previous conviction, the Way Yee Company, of 302 Des Voeux Road, Central, was fined \$250 for selling one "Prophyllactic" short adult tooth brush at \$1.50 (at \$1.20).

The Hop Fung Shop, of 8 Shing Wa Street, was fined \$200 for selling two apples at \$1.70 (\$0.45 each) (second offence).

The Wang Hing Shop, of 149 Benham Strand East, and Hop Hing, of 77A Hollywood Road, were each fined \$75 for selling a cake of Palmolive soap at \$1 (\$0.70) and a catty of noodles at 70 cents (\$0.60), respectively.

The Size Wo Shop, of 143 Queen's Road West, was fined \$50 for selling a half pound of knitting wool at \$12.50 (15 per lb.); the Hop Kee, of 38 King Kwong Street, was fined \$40 for selling a tin of Gold Flake cigarettes at \$2.50 (\$2).

Fines ranging from \$10 to \$30 were imposed on six other shops for selling electric bulbs, cigarettes and SMA Infant food above the controlled prices.

Price Index

The following index of wholesale prices has been constructed on the basis of declared quantities and c.i.f. values of commodities imported into the Colony; the index numbers are not "weighted"; the year 1938 has been selected as the base period as representing a normal year.

	1st 1 year	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Foodstuffs	100.0	104.8	104.8	649.2	686.2	686.2	686.2	686.2
Textiles	100.0	126.3	769.1	621.9	497.0	497.0	497.0	497.0
Metals & Minerals	100.0	160.2	297.3	255.0	336.2	336.2	336.2	336.2
Miscellaneous	100.0	154.9	646.5	590.4	505.7	505.7	505.7	505.7



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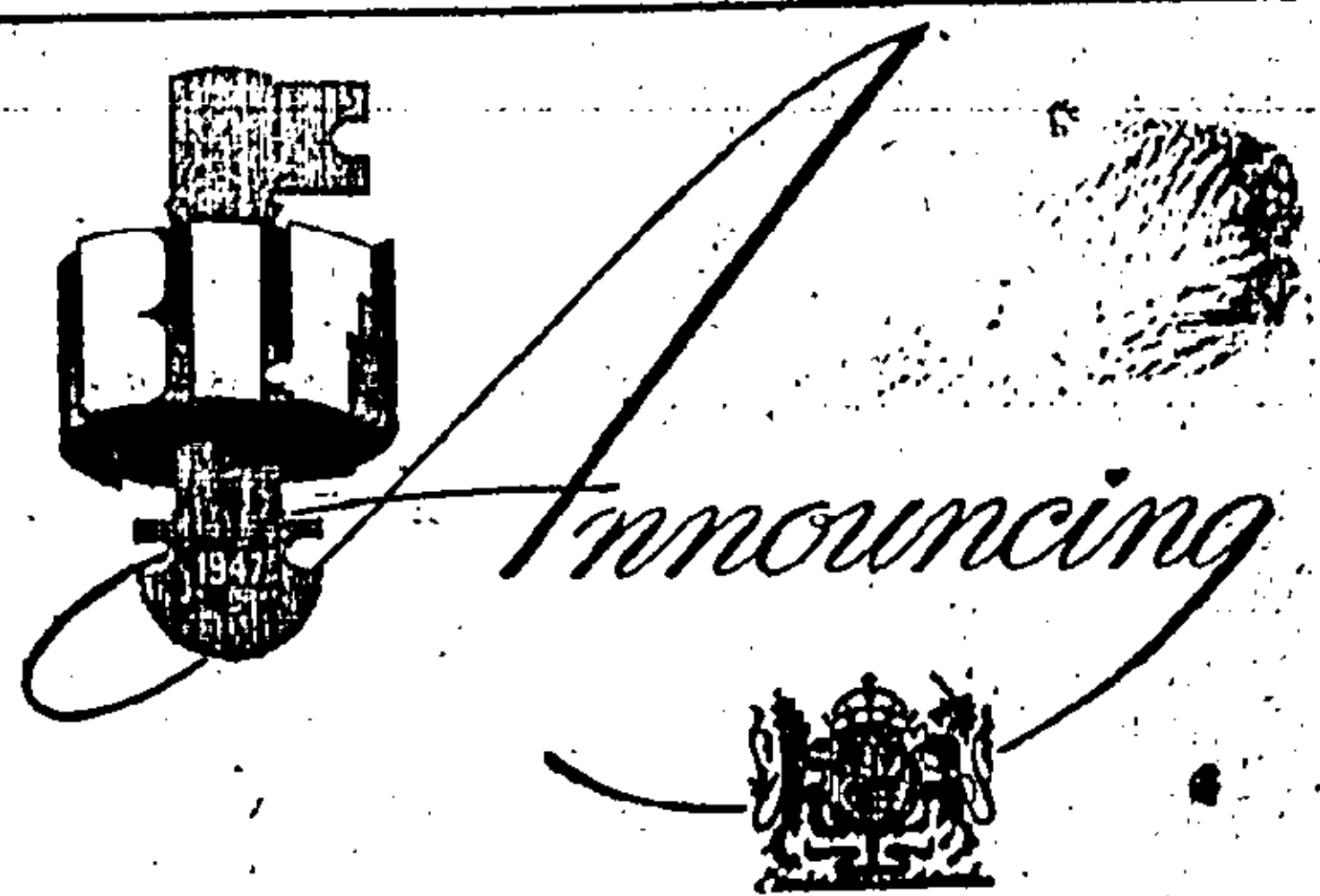
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* For full details of the 1947 Fair apply to the nearest British Commercial Diplomatic Office or Consular Officer, or the British Trade Commissioner in your area.

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AN IMPORTANT COMMISSION

There can be only one reason for appointing a Commission to consider and recommend revision of the salaries and emoluments of public officers in Hong Kong. Existing scales, as they apply to a large majority of public servants, are seriously inadequate in the light of present-day living costs. There is a clear directive to the Commission that, in the opinion of the Executive, increases in the basic salaries of most grades of the public service are justified. The point needs not to be justified. It is a platitude to say that it is a platitude. What is not quite so apparent, however, is the line of reasoning employed by Government in presenting a claim for increases in the pay of Government employees, implying that existing scales do not provide reasonable living standards, at the same time it proposes to tax the incomes of all salaried men in the Colony. If the idea is for the right hand to take away what the left hand confers by way of higher emoluments, the whole procedure threatens to develop into a farce. As it is, the strings attached to the Commission's functions under the terms of reference are not, necessarily, calculated to produce the most perfect answer. What emoluments are considered fair and reasonable in Hong Kong under its present-day economy may or may not bear a direct relation to the situation in Malaya, but the Commission is required to adapt its recommendations to those of the Malayan Commission, while both, presumably, must govern their decisions by the terms of the Colonial White Paper relating to the organisation of the Colonial Service. None of the difficulties that might arise from the necessity for such a system of coordination are insuperable; there at all times lies open resort to special local allowances, H.C.L. or Rehabilitation, to iron out inequalities (as between Colonies) in relative purchasing power. The requirements do, nevertheless, lend additional complications to the task of the Commission, which would be arduous enough without them. It may be noted, for instance, that one of the most important clauses in the terms of reference, that referring to the desirability of reducing the present diversity of salary scales and conditions of service among various grades of the public service, could easily involve the planning of substantial reorganisation of the entire administrative machine, as well as salary scales. No hint is given of how far the Commission is expected to go in this direction, but with Mr. D. J. Sloss, Vice-Chancellor of the University, as its Chairman, the Commission begins its work in circumstances assuring that a powerfully liberal spirit will be brought to bear on this particular aspect of the task assigned to it—and the conception that the only true principle of grading in Government service must be based upon pay going with the post, without reference to the race, colour or creed of the incumbent, is guaranteed serious consideration. Mr. Sloss has the assistance of a well-balanced and experienced team, with an ample "unofficial" majority, and it is one to which we can look with confidence for notable results.

WAVELL MEETING MOUNTBATTEN

London, Mar. 20.
Viscount Mountbatten will confer with Viceroy Lord Wavell in New Delhi on Saturday when, for the first time in history, the retiring Viceroy will meet his successor on Indian soil.

Lord Mountbatten's assumption of office on Monday had an additional historical aspect, with the great-grandson of India's first Emperor becoming India's last Viceroy, officials pointed out.

The Daily Telegraph today reported that Lord Mountbatten and party had arrived in Malaya.

British Empire By No Means Through—Lord Inverchapel

New York, Mar. 20.
England's colourful Ambassador to the United States, Lord Inverchapel, declares he has rejected any suggestion that Britain "is finished as a world power," thereby challenging those prophets who view John Bull's future darkly.

Addressing the English speaking union and the Richmond and Virginia forum, Lord Inverchapel asserted he failed "to follow the arguments of the people who say our guts have withered and shriveled within us and that we have lost our power and will to work."

He added that Britons still have guts which "will carry us out of the present crisis as they have carried us out of far graver crises in the past."

There is a question whether Lord Inverchapel would find among the well informed Americans who would bet him he is wrong in that declaration.

The determination of the followers of Mr. Winston Churchill through the valley of "blood, toil, tears and sweat" are all too fresh in the world's mind to permit doubts about England's stability.

Different Story

However, with a slight change in the phraseology of the British Ambassador's thesis, Americans probably would get a different reaction.

It would have been another story had he talked about Britain being finished as an imperial power—that is as the imperial giant of a half century ago.

Since then there has been a vast transformation in which the world has seen the British Commonwealth of Nations take the place of the bulk of the empire—in which England has found it expedient to grant independence to her priceless Indian and Burmese possessions—and in which she herself has ceased to be the globe's paramount financial and industrial nation.

Despite these changes it would be absurd to believe that the capital of the British Commonwealth of Nations—encompassing Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa and England herself—has ceased to be a world power.

It must be recognised though that its strength lies in the fact that it is the heart of the Commonwealth.

Not Temporary

Had there been any doubt about the significance of this metamorphosis it would be dispelled by the nature of the present economic crisis.

This is not, I believe, any temporary affliction. It was brought about by the exigencies of the late war but it was on its way long before the war as part of the transformation of the empire.

One seems to see an admission of this in England's

request that America take over her interests as the dominant power in Greece and Turkey. Equally striking was the decision of the British General Staff last year that in the event

By DEWITT MACKENZIE

of another world war England would not be able to defend her imperial life line through the Mediterranean—a sea which she had controlled for generations.

Metamorphosis

Her defences are to be shifted to East Africa. As previously

indicated, this strikes me as representing a great metamorphosis rather than a disintegration.

True the empire as such, may be on its way out but there is taking the place of it a Commonwealth which has titanic potentialities.

To the powerful membership which already exists may be added the independent nations of India and Burma.

Just take a pencil and paper and check the prospects of the British Commonwealth a hundred years from now and you will see what I mean.

What will be the population's wealth and the strength of all these nations a hundred years hence?—Associated Press.

What The Red Devils Missed At Arnheim

A multi-million dollar treasure in gold lay virtually at the feet of Britain's gallant "Red Devils" when they dropped from the sky on Arnheim. It has been learned from Heinrich Himmler's secret reports.

Unknown to the airborne invaders or the embattled Wehrmacht Garrison, the fortune lay for two days in the vault of the bank in the blazing little town.

It consisted of 32 sacks of gold coins—five million gold guilders—and represented the entire gold reserve of the enemy-occupied Netherlands.

Two days after the start of the tragic battle, while the heavily outnumbered skytroopers still were confident of relief by Allied tanks from ten-mile distant Nijmegen, a patriotic Dutch banker risked his life to "loot" the gold from under the very nose of the Wehrmacht.

The 32 sacks were transferred to the cellar of the private home of the bank steward.

Relief failed under enemy counter-attacks and the British were squeezed into a tiny pocket on wooded high ground just west of the town. The dead and missing numbered thousands.

At last, on order of the army commander, 2,000 surviving "Red Devils," slipped out of the trap at night in single file to regain the main British line across the Lek River.

Behind at Arnheim, the Dutch banker still guarded the gold he had intended to save for his Queen and people.

Caught Napping

Then Himmler's Gestapo, which had been caught napping, began to act. This real-life drama, as fantastic as playwrights would dare imagine, is reported in an urgent secret telegram discovered in the confidential files of the Reich Security Police by Allied researchers.

The telegram was sent from Holland on Dec. 3, 1944 more than two months after the

Arnheim struggle, by SS General Rayter, Chief of Occupation Police, who appears to have been purplish with anger.

It was addressed to Himmler himself aboard the special train which served him for a field headquarters. The text of the telegram, as translated by this correspondent, follows:

"Reichsfuehrer: In the year 1940, 135,000,000 gold guilders from the gold reserves of the Netherlands Bank were placed at the disposition of the Reichsbank. The RK (Reichscommissar Artur Seyss-Inquart) decided then that 5,000,000 gold guilders had to remain in Holland, for economic and industrial reasons.

"With most of the gold, almost a billion (guilders), the Queen had gone to England in May 1940.

"Nobody Alert"

"In February, 1943, when the danger of Allied landings arose, the remaining 5,000,000 gold guilders were brought to the east of the country on order of the German Bank Director Buehler, after consultation with the RK. The operation, left to the organs of the Netherlands Bank, as has now been determined, consisted of bringing 1.6 million gold coins in 32 sacks to Arnheim in February 1943, from Amsterdam and other affiliates of the Netherlands Bank.

"When the air landing in Arnheim occurred, nobody of the German Bank was alert. Furthermore, the directors of the Netherlands Bank did not draw our attention to the situation. As has now been determined by the security police, the director of the Arnheim Bank, Bijl De Vroe, removed the 32 sacks from the vault two days after the landing and hid them in the cellar of the private residence of the Bank steward in order to keep them safely for the Royal House.

"The director notified the (bank) administration in Amsterdam. The responsible district director of the affiliates of the Netherlands Bank in the east provinces, Dr. Boon, knew of the transfer of the gold and alleges he believed that it only concerned a very small gold reserve. Both (De Vroe and Boon) acknowledge his own responsibility but points out that he was not present at the session where it was decided to shift the gold to Arnheim.

Director Buehler, speaking for himself, observes that the gold has not been lost. It would have been lost if the English had been successful in Arnheim.

"The RK observes that the Reich could not have done anything with the gold, because allegedly the neutral countries will accept no more gold from the Reich, which I strongly doubt.

"I do not see why we should watch over 5,000,000 gold guilders here at a time when the Reich is so urgently in need of this gold.

"The remainder of the gold is to be found in the affiliate in Heppel.

"I direct your attention, Reichsfuehrer, to these facts. "Hell Hitler."—Associated Press.

RUSSIANS GET A ROCKET

Moscow, Mar. 20.
The Tass agency revealed today that a German rocket was discovered at the bottom of the Sea of Azov, east of the Crimea, and was raised by a diver, who was decorated for risking his life.

The agency did not reveal whether it was a V-2, but if it was a V-2 it would be the first evidence that the Germans used the weapon against Soviet Russia.—United Press.

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"You'd like her, Gus! Good center of gravity, strong surface tension, interesting suspension, clean lines and a brilliant conversationalist!"

ADOLF HITLER—IS HE STILL ALIVE?

Nearly two years have passed since the "1,000-year Reich" ended in on Adolf Hitler, but there still is no evidence that the Fuehrer is dead, says W. F. Heilmich, former Chief of Intelligence of the United States Army in Berlin.

Most Germans, asked about Hitler, just shrug and say, that since he has not been found he must be dead. Berliners, accustomed to his frequent and pompous utterances, say the best proof that he is dead is the fact that nothing has been heard from him.

Heilmich takes a more realistic approach. To him, the story that Hitler and his sweetheart, Eva Braun, took their lives in the Chancellery Bunker on Wilhelmstrasse and that their bodies were burned is false. Heilmich, who spent months investigating the bizarre story, is now Deputy Director of Political and Civil Affairs for the Berlin Military Government.

"Hitler did not die in the Chancellery and as far as I know, he did not die," Heilmich said, "that goes for Eva Braun and Martin Bormann too."

Bormann, Hitler's Deputy, was supposed to have been fatally injured or killed when the armored car in which he was riding was hit by a Panzerfaust on the Schillfuehrer Bridge near the Reichstag at 4 p.m. April 30, 1945.

Midnight Conference
"As a matter of fact," Heilmich said, "Bormann had a conference with the commander of Berlin troops at midnight that night and was perfectly well."

Heilmich said his opposite numbers in the British and Russian intelligence units in Berlin agreed with him that no evidence had been found to indicate that Hitler and Eva Braun had died in Hitler's bunker. There is one possibility that the first Russian troops to reach the Chancellery round the bodies and reported them only on the highest Russian levels. Heilmich doesn't believe it.

To support his disbelief is the fact that pictures were taken of the body of Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels; but no pictures ever have been produced of the Fuehrer's corpse.

Of the story, told by some witnesses, that 40 liters of gasoline were poured over the bodies of Hitler and Eva Braun and the bodies burned, Heilmich says it is impossible.

He explained that it takes 3,200 degrees of heat to cremate a body in a closed crematorium and that even then some bones remain. He said an effort had been made to burn the body of a dead pig with 40 liters of gasoline in the open, but that the pig was still recognizable when the fire went out.

The area around Hitler's bunker was thoroughly excavated and one of Hitler's silk hats and a slip of Eva Braun were found there, but "there were no signs that the bodies ever had been there," Heilmich said.

Good X-ray photographs of Hitler's skull are available and identification could have been made if the skull ever had been found. Heilmich admits that Hitler's fate "became an obsession" to him. He spent days running down rumors. The Russians insisted they had not found the bodies, he said.

Where?
Heilmich concedes that both the British and American Headquarters released stories indicating the more or less official belief that Hitler was dead, but that they were not based on intelligence reports.

"I wish we could have found him in some ignominious grave with four feet of dirt on him, but we didn't," he added.

Heilmich believes that Hitler, Bormann and Eva probably would have hid out together.

Where?
The former intelligence officer wouldn't guess. But he pointed out that Hitler, an Austrian, never was able to shed his Austrian accent. With his moustache shaved off and his hair cut short that probably would be the easiest place for him to lead a secluded life.

It also would have been easy for Hitler to prepare a hide-out in Berlin, months in advance of the Russian arrival, prepare false identity cards and papers, including ration cards, and remain hidden in an obscure part of Berlin for years.

"There's no reason why he shouldn't be right here," he said.—Associated Press.

Air Power Expert Alarmed

Indianapolis, Mar. 20.

Senator Owen Brewster (Maine, Republican) charged here today that Russia is attempting to build the world's strongest air force while the United States has permitted its air force to fall to third in world ranking and its aircraft production to collapse to two per cent of its wartime peak.

Addressing the American Legion's first aeronautics conference, Senator Brewster—considered a Senate expert on air power and national defense—said: "It is alarming to know that the major impact of any reduction in President Truman's budget will fall first on the Army Air Force."

He said Russia already is spending \$4,000,000,000 more on the armed forces than is the United States. He said even economy-minded Britain's R.A.F. is now larger than the U.S. Air Force.

Pointing to the menace of Russia's growing air power, he said: "Russia has made crystal clear her intention of becoming the world's greatest air power. Sometimes one can infer the intentions of others from their actions."

"The establishment of four American weather stations in the Arctic last year brought a Soviet charge that it was a hostile and aggressive act aimed at Russia, set no one in this country considering Russia's 100 Arctic weather stations hostile and aggressive."—United Press.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

LOSE A TRUMP FIRST

Giving up the first trick in trumps, remaining prepared to win the next two, is often preferable to winning the first two and giving up the third. This form of play by a suit dealer is comparable in principle to the hold-up play in No Trumps. Its purpose is to retain control of the situation and protect the contract against danger that otherwise would impend.

S. 8 7 4
H. 5 4 3
D. 5 4 10 7 5 3
C. 9 6

S. 10 5 2
H. K 2
D. 4
C. A K Q J 10 7 3

S. A K Q 3
H. 10 8
D. Q J 6 2
C. 8 4 2

S. Q J 6
H. A Q J 10 7 6
D. K 9 8
C. 5

(Dealer: North—East-West vulnerable.)
North East South West
Pass 1 D 1 H 2 C
Pass 2 S 3 H 4 S
In the East was one of those chaps who "values time," and does not like to "waste" it.

After South led the Heart A and followed with the 10 to the K, East did some very quick counting.

"Seven club tricks, plus one in hearts and two in spades

makes ten and game," he reckoned. "So all I have to do is get the trumps out and run my tricks."

That's what he tried to do. He took his third and fourth tricks with the spade A and K, then led the 3 to the Q. South then made the obvious switch to a diamond which resulted in two tricks to set the contract.

East kicked himself for not leading a trump in dummy to ruff the second diamond.

Correct play would have been to send the spade 10 through to the J on the first trump trick. You ask about the bidding? Yes, West knowingly preferred a risky trump suit to an 11-trick minor game.

Tomorrow's Problem

S. 5
H. 9 8 7 2
D. K Q 10 9 7 5 4
C. 8

S. Q 8 6
H. A K 6 3
D. J 9 8 2
C. 4 2

S. 7 4 3 2
H. Q J
D. A
C. A K Q J 10 6

(Dealer: North—East-West vulnerable.)
What opening bid would you make? South's hand is "short" in hearts and two in spades



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KUNMING	400.-	4.00 "
LIUCHOW	180.-	1.80 "
SHANGHAI	350.-	3.50 "



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DEBATE ON ARMED FORCES No Reduction Yet In View Of World Situation; Conservative Support

Rebel Labourites "Out Of Order"

London, Mar. 20.

The Defence Minister, Mr. A. V. Alexander, today flatly rejected rebel Labourites' demands that Britain reduce her armed forces below a million men by March 31, 1948.

"I share fully the feeling that our defence burdens should be reduced at the earliest possible moment," Mr. Alexander told the Commons, "but because of the great dangers which would follow abandonment in part of the maintenance of peace and order in the world, we cannot subscribe to it."

Mr. Alexander moved approval of Government's defence policy after the Speaker, Mr. Douglas Clifton Brown, ruled out of order an amendment offered by 46 rebel Labourites urging a further review of the country's commitments "so as to reduce the burden on our manpower and financial resources."

The rebels had been prepared to support their amendment with arguments that Britain was maintaining a million-man army primarily as "defence" against Russia, with whom this country has a military alliance, and to support reactionary governments in Europe.

The rebels were expected to attack the Government's defence policy despite the fate of their amendments, but now probably will not seek a showdown vote until the Government's conscription bill comes up for debate at a date still to be fixed.

They have joined forces with conscientious objectors within the party to conscription, to introduce an amendment declining a second reading of a bill that would provide armed forces "disproportionate to the nation's needs and economic position." More than 100 Labourites have already signed this amendment.

Withdrawal Date

Mr. Alexander made only a passing reference in the Commons to British troop commitments in Italy, Venezia-Giulia and Greece, because, he said, Government hoped that all British forces would be withdrawn from those countries by the end of the next fiscal year—March 31, 1948.

Highlights of his speech included: (1) The Admiralty and the Supply Ministry expect to spend more than £50,000,000 during the fiscal year on research and development of weapons for the armed forces, presumably including those involving atomic energy.

(2) Britain is willing to publish details of the strength and assignment of her armed forces, but only if the other United Nations do so.

(3) Mr. Alexander gave the Imperial General Staff a memorandum in mid-February on the financial limits within

which it can plan long-range defence policy.

H.K. Garrison

After saying that the number of British troops in Japan was comparatively small and that they had all been withdrawn from The Netherlands East Indies, Mr. Alexander declared: "But in places like Hong Kong and Malaya, British troops must continue to be located in numbers sufficient to guarantee security and reconstruction after the catastrophic years of Japanese occupation."

Mr. Alexander said that he fully shared the desire of certain Government supporters that British defence responsibilities should be reduced at the earliest possible moment, but because of the great dangers which would follow abandonment of British power in preserving peace and order in the world, he could not subscribe to their view.

It would be fatal, however, to depart from the Government policy and substitute instead further precipitate and immediate reduction in the size of the forces since such step would not only cripple these forces and make them wholly inoperable now but would inflict a long term handicap upon them from which they would take years to recover.

Hush-Hush

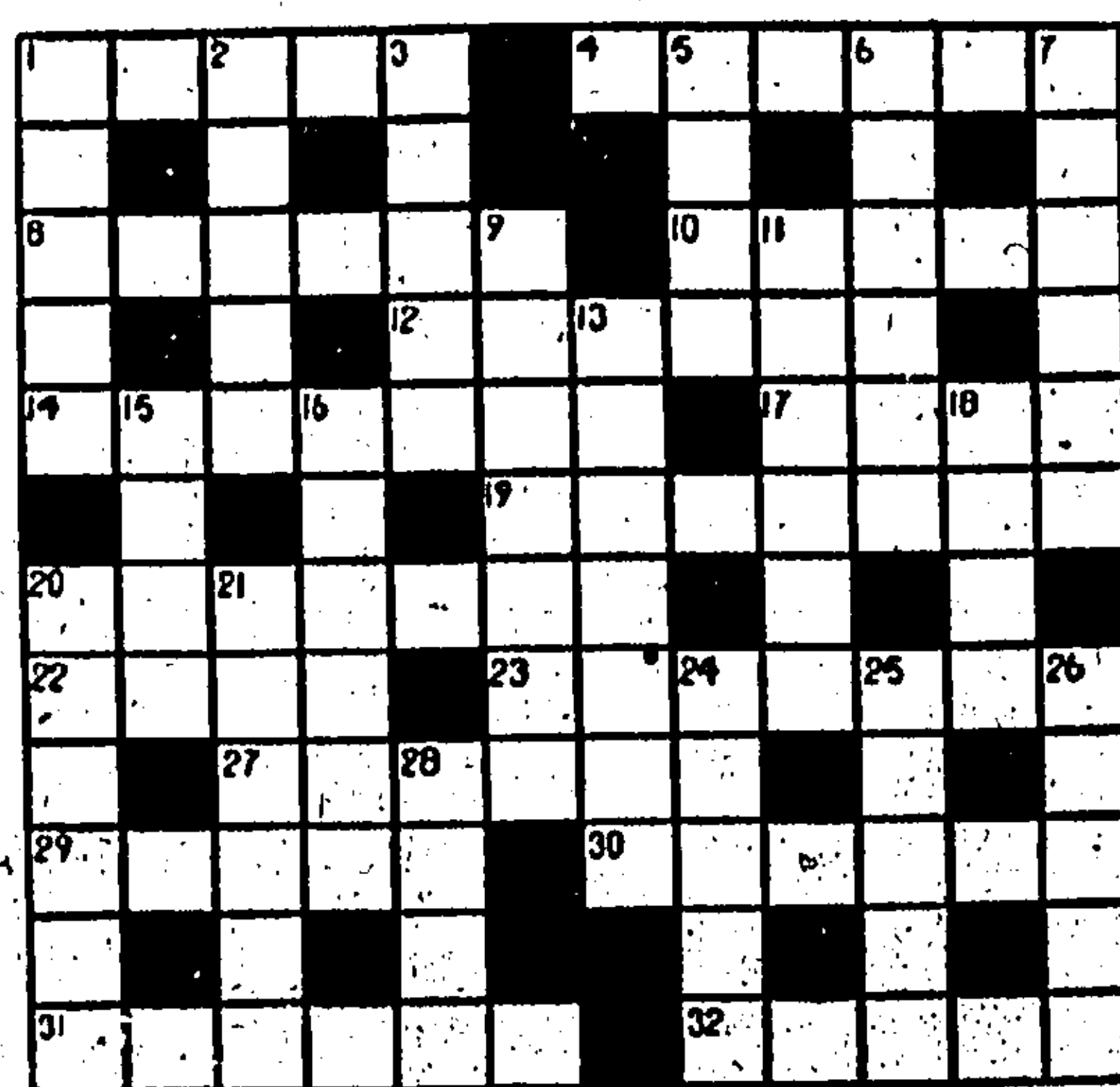
Mr. Alexander disclosed that experience during the war showed that some of the details published in the pre-war defence estimates were of the utmost value to the enemy. Therefore, the Government would not revert to the pre-war practice until an exchange of information had been internationally agreed. The fact that Britain published so much information removed the only bargaining factor she had for obtaining similar information from foreign governments.

Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, former Minister of Production, speaking for the Opposition, said that the Conservatives would at once support the Government to keep armed forces at such a size as to fulfil Britain's commitments. To carry the idea of cutting defence forces to the minimum into the realm of danger because of the economic crisis was nonsensical. He criticised the Govern-

ment's plan to publish details of the strength and assignment of her armed forces, but only if the other United Nations do so.

Mr. Alexander gave the Imperial General Staff a memorandum in mid-February on the financial limits within which it can plan long-range defence policy.

A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

- Tree.
- Supplies.
- Pail.
- Big.
- Save.
- Kind of rifle.
- Experiment.
- Fastens.
- Unlawful.
- Go in front.
- Expressed gratitude.
- Member of a team.
- Superior.
- Saturated.
- Make beloved.
- Foe.

Clues Down

- Fundament.
- Mistake.
- Symph.
- Transparent substance.
- Profession.
- Confession-cry.
- Compactness.
- Scandal.
- Bolla.
- Clever.
- Bit of harness.
- Withered.
- Deceive.
- Drank like a cat.
- Got up.
- Anchor.
- Drab.
- Extent.

Yesterday's Crossword

ACROSS:—3. Strolled; 8. Laid; 9. Multiple; 11. Restored; 13. Well; 15. Disprove; 18. Stalling; 19. Hazy; 21. Secluded; 24. Latently; 25. Fall; 27. Sediment.

NO MEETING POINT

Paris, Mar. 20.

The newspapers, "Le Monde," which sometimes reflects the views of the Foreign Office, wrote today that there was "no glimpse yet of a meeting point where the conflicting aspirations of the Russians and Anglo-Saxons at the Moscow Conference could come together." The paper asked whether any agreement was possible "between the Russians, who want to push towards the west by means of unification of Germany, and their own participation in the control of the Ruhr, and the Anglo-Saxons, who want to consolidate their western position and defend it against Russian encroachments."—Reuter.

ment's plans as giving a very confused picture of British organization for any war. He had the impression that there was no mobilisation plan whatever. If a Supreme Commander was appointed in the event of war tomorrow could he be told in a few minutes what were the fighting forces at his disposal, how they were to be deployed, what reserves were coming to the colours and what he mobilisation plan was? The first thing required in preparation for war was to have a fully worked out plan of mobilisation.—United Press and Reuter.

Serious Split At Moscow Talks

Moscow, Mar. 22.

France and Great Britain split last night on the future disposition of Germany's coal resources in the first serious disagreement among the western powers at the Council of Foreign Ministers.

French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault notified the Council that his country could not consent to the economic reconstruction of Germany unless the other powers agreed to her demands for guarantees of German coal.

British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin replied curtly that he could not accept a proposal where one power blocked all negotiations until it gets its way on one point.

That meant that the French stand, a virtual ultimatum, created possibly the worst split yet developed here among the western powers.

The Russians backed the French coal demands.

Formula Wanted

Bidault said that France wants a flexible formula for coal exports "adaptable to the rate of production and which would take into account the requirement of German economy."

Mr. Bevin said priority must be given to making Germany self-sufficient. United States Secretary of State George C. Marshall said he would propose that the Austrian Government representatives be called to Moscow for consultation in drafting the Austrian peace treaty.—Associated Press.

Paris Prefect Of Police Dismissed

Paris, Mar. 20.

The Ministry of the Interior announced tonight that Charles Luizet, Paris prefect of police, had been relieved of his post for failure to purge the police force properly following the liberation.

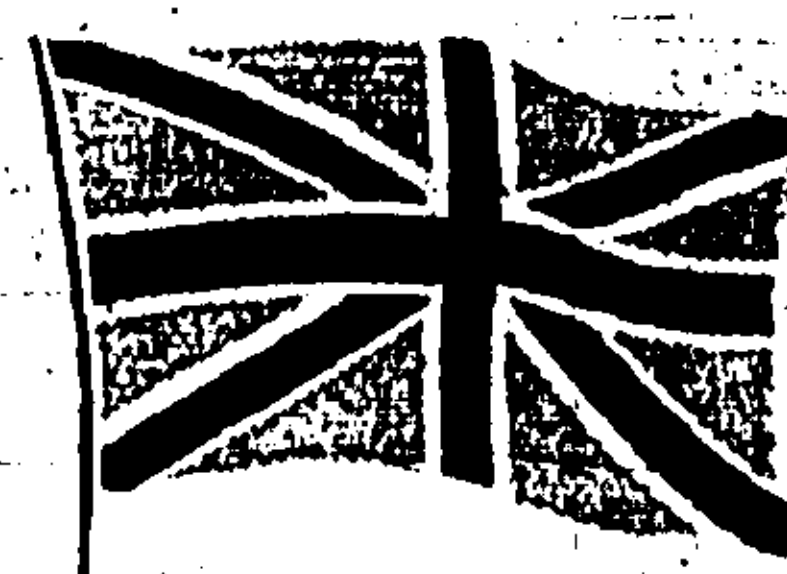
Although the Ministry communique denied that Luizet's suspension was connected with the "Joanovici affair," the action came on the heels of the suspension earlier today of Jean Poulguez, commissioner in the Surete, in connection with the mysterious disappearance of Joseph Joanovici two weeks ago.

It was also followed by the arrest of two other high officials of the judiciary police, both of whom were held for complicity in the same affair.

The announcement said Luizet would continue to draw his salary but had been relieved of his responsibilities.—United Press.

Dachau, Mar. 20.

Lieutenant-General Juergen Stroop, former Nazi police chief in Warsaw, and 19 members of his staff were found guilty by a United States military court here today of ill-treating and murdering American airmen who made forced landings. The sentences are expected tomorrow.—Reuter.



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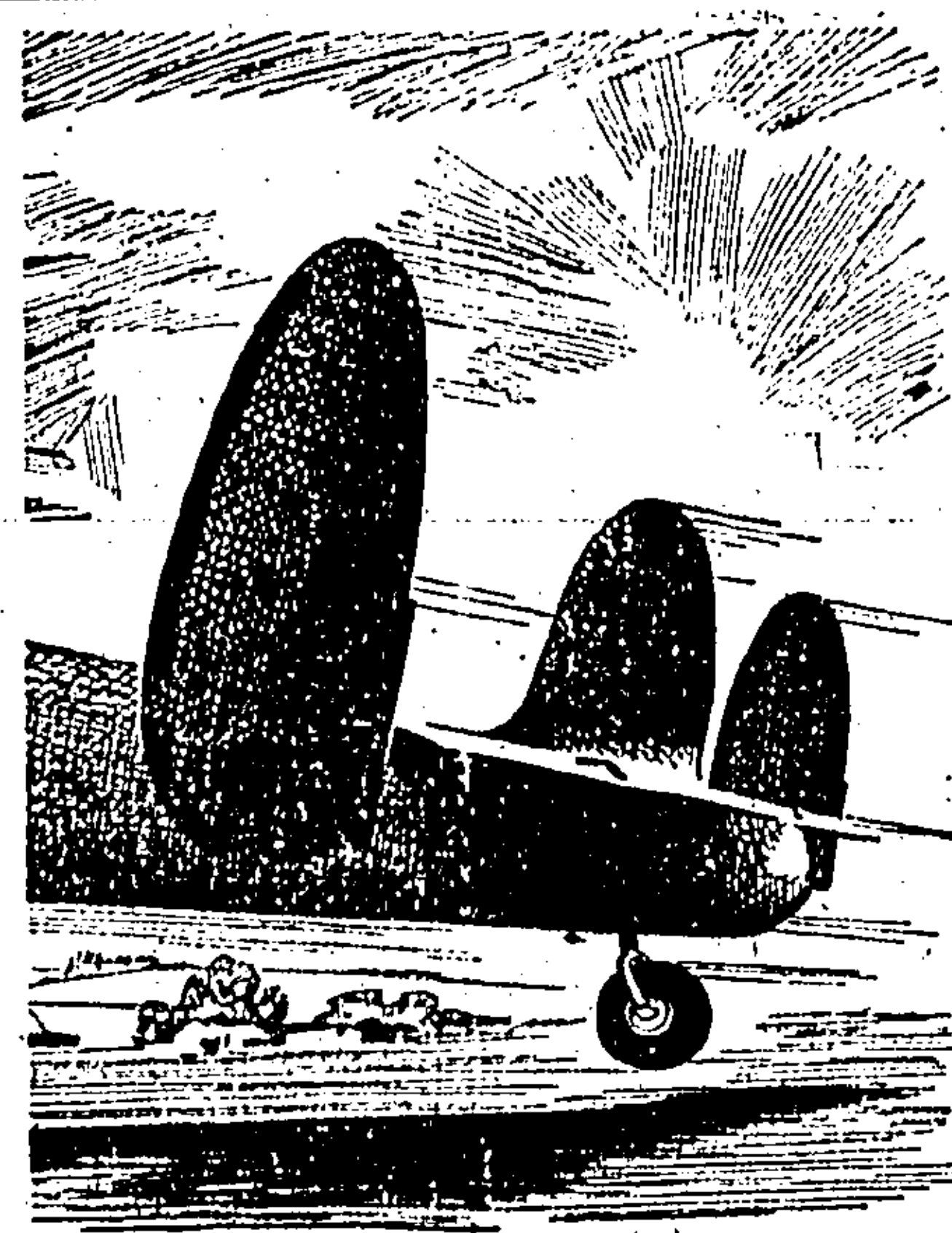
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SAID TO HAVE WANTED MAN WHO WOULDN'T TALK

London, Mar. 20. A talk in which Thomas John Ley was said to have asked for a man who could keep his mouth shut was described when the Chalk Pit murder trial was resumed at the Old Bailey today. Ley, 66-year-old company director of Beaufort Gardens, Chelsea, and Laurence John Smith, 38-year-old joiner, of Belvoir Road, East Dulwich, are charged with murdering John McBain Mudie, 35-year-old barman, whose body was found in a chalk pit in Surrey on Nov. 30.

Joseph Minden, a porter at the Royal Hotel of Holborn, today said that late last year Ley said to him: "I want a man with a car who can keep his mouth shut." He knew Ley as a solicitor and thought that it might be in the pursuance of duty and asked if it was legal. Ley replied that it was and added: "The man could earn a year's salary in a matter of weeks."

Ley gave him a telephone number, which he passed to a car hire man named Buckingham. Later, Ley gave him £10.

John Buckingham told the court that after being approached by Minden he met Ley, who told him that he was an ex-solicitor and had met two ladies, who were being blackmailed. Ley said that he wanted to "get something" on the blackmailer.

"Woman Seduced"

Ley introduced him to Smith, who said that Ley had told him that a young woman had been seduced at Wimbledon and that he wanted Buckingham to help him and Ley.

Buckingham said that about 14 days before he went to Reigate he had a special appointment to meet Ley, who told him that he now had enough evidence against the man to make him sign a confession. He wanted Buckingham to go with Smith to fetch a man whose name was Mudie and who was a Reigate barman.

Ley said that the man was to

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Found £200

Smith was holding Mudie by the arms round the waist and then he tied his ankles and arms and body up with rope. Buckingham said that he "dumped" Mudie along a passage to a room. No violence was done to him while he was there. After dumping Mudie in a chair he and Smith left the room and Ley, who was waiting at the bottom of the stairs, handed him a package and told him not to communicate with him any more. He found £200 in the package given him by Ley.

On Dec. 3 Smith told him: "The old man was very pleased with the way that things went. Mudie signed a confession and was given £500 and had gone out of the country."

Kathleen Mary Ingleson, private secretary to Ley, gave evidence of writing a letter, on

SUPERSONIC PLANE

London, Mar. 20. The Ministry of Supply announced tonight that Britain's 1,000-mph jet-motored plane would be launched in the atmosphere over the Solihull race about April for its first test flight.

A robot pilot will fly the supersonic plane. All ships and aircraft have been warned to clear the area.

The plane is 14 miles north of Birmingham and only a few miles north of the main Atlantic shipping lane, during tests.—United Press.

Ley's dictation, to Mudie demanding the return of cheques sent to him by Ley to give Mrs Brook. The witness said that Ley told her Mudie was blackmailing Mrs Brook. The case was then adjourned until tomorrow.—Reuter.

"CIVIL WAR" NEAR MADRID

Madrid, Mar. 20. Nine are reported killed and 40 arrested in a clash between guerrillas and police in the Tetuel area, some 200 miles east of Madrid.

Unidentified bandits held up the Requena to Valencia bus, robbing the occupants of money and valuables. They killed a civil guard who intervened and injured another. The Madrid-Valencia bus was also held up.

The authorities claim to have broken up the guerrillas' plan to explode bombs during the St. Joseph's Feast in Valencia this week.—Reuter.

BANK WEEKLY RETURNS

London, Mar. 20. Public Deposits £210,000,000, Bankers Deposits £67,700,000, Other Deposits £1,400,000, Government Securities £33,500,000, Other Securities: Discounts and Advances £1,400,000, Securities £9,700,000, Notes and Coins £4,100,000, Notes in circulation £3,500,000, Total £1,014,000,000, Ratio of reserve to liabilities 15.02%.—Reuter.

BOMBAY SILVER & GOLD

Bombay, Mar. 20. Silver, ready, per 100 tola 164 Rupees, 60 Anna, Forward, (May 7 settlement) 165, 00; Gold, Delivery, per tola 103, 08, Forward, May 100, 05; Sovereign, each 69, 08; Silver, New settlement (unofficial) 165, 04.—Reuter.

ZURICH FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Zurich, Mar. 20. Zurich on London 17.35, New York 4.25, Paris 3.40, Brussels 0.57, Amsterdam 162.80, Lisbon 10.00, Airre 104.00, Stockholm 119.57, Madrid 30.75.—Reuter.

U.K. INDEX

London, Mar. 20. Industrials 155.0, Kaffirs 101.3, Home 94.1, Commodity 214.9.—Reuter.

NEW YORK SILVER

New York, Mar. 20. Silver, bar (asked price) per 100 tola 70 1/2.—Reuter.

POST OFFICE NOTICES Outward Mails

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below:—

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Airmail for Manila P.I. (Reg.) 9.50 a.m. (Only 10 a.m.)

Manila P.I. 10 a.m.

Swatow 10 a.m.

Manila P.I. 1 p.m.

Hankow 2 p.m.

Shanghai 3 p.m.

Macao, Tientsin and Shikhi 4 p.m.

Canton (by Train) 4 p.m.

Airmail for Canton, Luchow and Kuning (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Only 3.30 p.m.)

Airmail for Chungking only (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Only 3.30 p.m.)

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

Airmail for Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Surabaya, Sydney and Auckland (Reg.) 4.30 p.m. (Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Only 2.30 p.m.)

Airmail for Canton, Luchow and Kuning (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Only 3.30 p.m.)

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SS "General Meigs"	April	14
SS "General Gordon"	April	28
SS "Marine Lynx"	May	20

NEW YORK AND BOSTON VIA SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES

SS "Willamette Victory"	March	28
SS "Clovia Victory"	April	10

NEW YORK AND HAVANA VIA SINGAPORE COLOMBO, COCHIN, BOMBAY, SUEZ AND MEDITERRANEAN PORTS.

SS "Marine Flier" (Omits Colombo & Cochin)	March	28
SS "Mount Mansfield"	March	29
SS "Marine Leopard"	April	7

BOMBAY VIA MANILA, BATAVIA, SINGAPORE AND MADRAS

SS "Marine Adder"	March	27
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MANILA

SS "General Meigs"	April	7
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